

Collaborations, Partnerships and The Wheel: a summary overview

March 2019

This paper provides an overview of the different types of collaborations and partnerships that The Wheel has and how they fit into the implementation of our strategy (2017 – 2020)

Partnerships with a structured and/or written agreement for delivery of specific services:

Area / Project	Details and Relationship to Strategy
Employer Resources newsletter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • www.erb.ie quarterly email/newsletter on HR issues of relevance to CV sector employers. • It is a partnership between original developers of the service: The Wheel, Carmichael and Adare HR. • Adare providing the HR expertise/content onto site. The Wheel is webmaster for site, and also puts the newsletter together and sends out. • Concept of ‘ownership’ of the service shared three ways Relevant to Objective 3 ‘Drive the continuous improvement of organisational practice within the sector’ of our strategy.
NewsWheel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Wheel produces the NewsWheel Member Newsletter 11 times a year. It goes to 5,000 readers every month. • Content is produced by in-house, as well as via a panel of half a dozen external content providers (including the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform and Clann Credo). The newsletter also carries one-off stories and special offers from external partners and contacts from across the Irish community and voluntary sector, all with the specific purpose of benefiting our members.
Irish Charities Engagement Monitor (ICEM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A public attitudes survey of attitudes to a range of Irish charities and charity-related issues. • The Wheel working collaborative with ca 20+ other charities which pay varying amounts in a pool to cover these regular waves of surveys. • Specifically, The Wheel focuses on inserting questions that relate to the sector’s reputation and impact.
Volunteer Ireland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate formally on the ‘Charity Impact Awards Community Hero’ campaign • Works well and likely to continue. • Less structured, but strong relationship exists between The Wheel and VI in relation to advocacy work.
The ‘Training Links’ networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every three years, we roll out a grant-giving programme and select between 10 and 20 networks of organisations (each of which has a minimum of ten organisations in it) with whom we will work for the following 2 years. • Each network applies for a grant to fund 80% of a training programme to build capacity in the member organisations

	<p>of that particular network, which will be implemented over two years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each network forms part of an Programme which we run over 2 years whereby each network has a coordinator that comes to regular meetings with a Wheel project manager to understand how best to make the funding work for them and also to share experiences amongst networks. • This is a programme which is funded by the National Training Fund. • This is a hugely successful programme that we have modelled on 'Skillnets'.
National Rural Network programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NRN is a component of the EU's Rural Development Programme (RDP) 2014-2020 • The programme aims to maximise the beneficial outcomes of the RDP for people living and working in rural communities • The Wheel is a partner in the consortium implementing the NRN; Irish Rural Link is the lead partner and the other consortium partners are the School of Geography and Archaeology in NUI Galway and Philip Farrelly & Co. (agricultural consultants)
Accredited leadership programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Leaders for Change</i>, ia Leadership development programme with Quality Matters and National University of Ireland • <i>Certificate in Charity Law</i>, with the Law Society of Ireland • <i>Accredited training for Company Secretaries</i> with the Institute of Companies Secretaries • <i>Transformative Leadership programme</i> – a Level 8 accredited leadership programme, delivered by Community Action Network (CAN) on behalf of The Wheel and accredited by Maynooth University
European Parliament & European Commission Project 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizens Dialogues in advance of the European Parliamentary elections in May on 1, 11 and 12 April in partnership with EPLO and EC Commission Representation in Ireland
Eramus+ project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a collaboration on the development of skills recognition, capacity building, and professional education for the Third Sector [SCOPE] • An Cosán • Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations, Scotland • Opintotoiminnan Keskusliitto ry (Sivis Centre), Finland • Arengukoostöö Ümarlaud, Estonia • Civic Alliance Latvia • European Network of National Civil Society Associations (ENNA)
Meet & Code	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tech Soup – Project Coordinator • SAP – Funder • The Wheel are the Irish partner for Meet & Code 2018 and 2019. Meet & Code is a Europe wide initiative that enables nonprofits and charities to host coding events for young people.

European Parliament Ambassadors Schools programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European Parliament Liaison Office Dublin (EPLD) • The Wheel is collaborating with the EPLD as a support service provider and technical assistant in the delivery of the European Parliament Ambassador School programme from 2017 – 2020 (3 academic years).
Spark Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The programme is funded by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and is being delivered in collaboration with Trinity College Dublin. • In discussion with DCCA to put a longer term programme in place.
Member Offers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current relationships through the scheme are with: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Zinto3 2. Adare 3. Avcom 4. Bankhawk 5. BHP 6. Colours 7. Doggett 8. Enclude 9. Energia 10. HSF 11. Recosi 12. The Office Centre 13. Three

Partnerships / Coalitions:

SETF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Enterprise Task Force – a coalition of ca 12 organisations which have an interest in shaping national policy to support the development of social enterprise and entrepreneurship. • Previously, five of these orgs, including The Wheel, pool funding of €2,500 each to fund the advocacy resources which works for this coalition. Additionally, The Wheel sourced a grant of €10k from the Carnegie (UK) Trust to fund research for the coalition to make submissions to the development of Government Policy. • In 2018 and 2019, the coalition has worked to shape the emerging policy on social enterprise being produced by the Department of Rural and Community Development.
Community and Voluntary Pillar (CV Pillar)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coalition of 17 national orgs over the last 17+ years, which originally existed to participate in the national social partnership framework. Continues to exist to pursue shared social policy aims through the bilateral ‘structured dialogue’ – which social partnership has transformed into. • Specific funding is received under the ‘CV Pillar’ grant scheme for part of the cost of the Director of Public Policy position and this enables us to perform at the necessary level.
Campus Engage (IUA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2016/2017 The Wheel was a strategic partner on a new report on <i>Engaged Research</i>, highlighting opportunities and best practice for research collaboration between Higher

	<p>Education Institutes and the C&V sector. The report was produced by Campus Engage, an initiative of the Irish Universities Association.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since 2017 the relationship is less structured and information sharing meetings take place from time to time.
National Pay & Benefits survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Community Foundation for Ireland, in association with The Wheel, and Dochas, is the lead on Pay and Benefits in Community, Voluntary and Charitable organisations in Ireland. • This survey [the next edition to be available in autumn 2019] details everything from rates of pay across the sector to conditions of employment (including pension schemes, paid leave and other benefits), along with other supporting materials.
Coalition 2030	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Wheel is a member of Coalition 2030, which was launched in March 2017. The Wheel's Director of Public Policy sits on the Steering Group. • Coalition 2030 is an alliance of leading civil society groups working for the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 in Ireland and across the globe
The Peoples'Voice Campaign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Wheel is one of the founding coalition – led by the Irish Council for Civil Liberties (ICCL) – which is actively campaigning for Electoral Act reform. • Members of the coalition are: ICCL (the lead convenor), Amnesty International, FrontLine Defenders, Transparency International Ireland, Uplift, and The Wheel,

Business Development:

Area / Project	Details and Relationship to Strategy
Member Offers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See reference above
Various partnerships / project-related	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crowe • Carnegie Trust (UK) • Newmans Own • Each agreement connects The Wheel's brand together with the 3rd party in similar and different ways.
Various marketing partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From time to time, The Wheel enters partnership / affinity relationships with 3rd parties and we have a set of guidelines which dictate the process for agreeing same.
For Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A graduate programme for the cv sector, managed by 2into3 recruitment • The Wheel sits on the advisory panel
Corporate	<p>Investment management firms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quilter Cheviot support the online trustee training. Ivan spoke at one of their events and gave input into their annual report. They also hosted a CFM event. • Sarasin support similar events and are listed in the Funders section on our website and are considered potential collaborators.

International

<p>'Sister councils' in Northern Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales</p>	<p>The Wheel has agreed a joint 'concordat' between the following organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) • Welsh Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA) • Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) • Northern Irish Council for Voluntary Action (NICVA) <p>Meetings are held twice per year in revolving locations in the five jurisdictions and a programme of information sharing and assistance, and sometimes, joint funding applications from the EU are developed.</p>
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Ad-hoc partnerships / collaborations

<p>Disability Federation of Ireland</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structured MOU from about 6 years ago which meant information exchange meetings twice or three times a year. Regularity has faded off in last 2 years.
<p>Carmichael</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet informally but regularly, to exchange information and coordinate loosely on activities and strategic approaches.
<p>Europe for Citizens Programme</p>	<p>To promote opportunities we have collaborated with the following organisations to do events, marketing and capacity building:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creative Europe Sub-Culture Programme (Arts Council) • Erasmus+ (Leargas) • EC representation in Ireland (e.g. National Ploughing event)
<p>Charity Impact Awards</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An annual collaboration with 20+ charities to roll out and develop the Charity Impact Awards public awareness and awards competition every autumn.
<p>For Purpose</p>	<p>On the Advisory panel of the 2into3 For Purpose programme, which is a graduate programme for the cv sector. The programme attracts, mentors and develops the future leaders of the sector, connecting cv organisations with talented graduates who are searching 'for purpose' in their careers and in an effort to make an impact on civil society.</p>
<p>Irish Research Council</p>	<p>To promote opportunities for C&V sector in research</p>
<p>Campus Engage</p>	<p>To promote opportunities for engaged research collaboration</p>
<p>UL Engage</p>	<p>We sit on the University of Limerick Advisory Board for the UL Engage Programme which meet a few times a year</p>
<p>Charities Regulator</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet 2-3 per year to exchange information and ensure the sector is fully informed on the requirements of the Charities Regulator • Regular updates to our members and the sector on the Charities Regulator
<p>Charity Trustee Week</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On a working group with the Charities Regulator since 2017, to ensure effective communication of, and engagement with, Charity Trustee Week, our members and the wider sector.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members of the coalition which works with the Regulator on this project are: Boardmatch Ireland, Carmichael, Charities Institute Ireland, Dóchas, Volunteer Ireland, The Wheel.
National Community Weekend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On a working group with the Department of Rural and Community Development, on the development of the inaugural National Community Weekend in May 2019.
Collaborations around competitions / judging panels	<p>We have worked / still work as members of selection panels on the following schemes/programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Entrepreneurs Ireland Awards Charities Institute Ireland Excellence Awards GSK Impact Awards. Carmichael Good Governance Awards